

FINAL

United States Air Force

Environmental Assessment



**Construction of Addition to Religious Education Building
at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma**

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Finding of No Practicable Alternatives (FONPA) for the Environmental Assessment for the Construction of an Addition to the Religious Education Building at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

Introduction

Tinker Air Force Base (Tinker AFB) is completing an environmental assessment (EA) to determine environmental and socio-economic impacts of construction of an addition to the religious education building (building 5715). The proposed action is construction of a 1,395-square-foot (two room) addition to building 5715. The purposes of this project are to enhance short-term (hourly) day care services provided through building 5715 and increase service capacity by 100 children per day by expanding available facilities.

In 2001, a survey of available buildings on Tinker AFB indicated that building 5715 was the only available building that met the minimum requirements for childcare facilities (UFC 4-740-14). It remains the only available building that meets minimum criteria.

When the hourly day care facility opened, the nine spaces were fully reserved. Twenty additional spaces were created by conversion of an interior room in building 5715. There is no space available for additional conversion, and the demand for hourly childcare services has grown to the point that there are now 200 children on the waiting list. The proposed action does not include hiring additional staff, beyond possibly one part-time employee to work in the facility. The addition would enhance the efficiency of hourly childcare staff in building 5715 by providing similar services in a consolidated location. No additional facilities would be constructed, and no existing facilities would be demolished to construct the addition.

The preferred location for the addition is adjacent to, and connected with, building 5715, where similar services are currently provided. Action alternatives were considered, but none were identified that meet the project purpose, as discussed below. The no-action alternative is continued provision of temporary childcare services through building 5715 without the addition. Descriptions of these alternatives are provided in the EA.

This document assesses the alternatives to determine whether there exists a practicable alternative to construction of the addition to the religious education building that would have less or no impact to the floodplain of Crutch Creek.

Consideration of Alternatives

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action has no identified negative environmental or socio-economic consequences other than encroachment on the floodplain of Crutch Creek. The proposed location is within the Community Development Area of Tinker AFB. Within this part of the base, Crutch Creek has been channelized to enhance flood conveyance, resulting in a floodway that is narrower than the floodplain. Crutch Creek is no longer hydrologically connected with its historic floodplain. Several structures have been built within the historic floodplain. These structures and the proposed building 5715 addition location are outside the designated floodway for Crutch Creek. As a result, should the Proposed Action be implemented, there would be no change in flood elevations upstream of building 5715 and no reduction in flood conveyance downstream of the building.

Because the general area is already highly developed, there is no functional floodplain, and the typical ecological functions of a natural floodplain do not occur. Implementation of the proposed project would result in placing a structure over less than 0.005 percent of the total floodplain of Crutch Creek. Total floodplain encroachment of all projects considered that would impact the floodplain of Crutch Creek is less than 0.1 percent of the floodplain. There would be no significant increase in impervious surface area and surface runoff. Impacts to the floodplain would be minor and insignificant.

Action Alternatives

On Tinker AFB, building 5715 is the only building with current staff available to provide hourly day care and facilities appropriate for hourly day care. Other buildings lack facilities for short-term day care or do not meet the minimum criteria for childcare facilities. Tinker AFB lacks the fiscal resources to upgrade an additional existing building to provide hourly childcare services and adequate staff at a separate location. A new, stand-alone facility is beyond the project scope and budget to enhance existing services. Establishment of a disjunct facility to provide hourly day care through an addition to a different building also would not meet the project purpose of enhancing existing staff utilization at a single location. One part-time employee, as provided for in the proposed project, would not meet minimum staffing criteria for childcare facilities (UFC 4-740-14). Additionally, one part-time employee could not safely supervise the children if the addition were constructed at a disjunct location where current staff from building 5715 would not be available.

Construction of a smaller addition would not provide the necessary space to meet the project purpose.

The two current day care facilities are operating at capacity and there is also additional demand for full-time childcare services. There is insufficient land available to expand these facilities and maintain compliance with minimum criteria specified in UFC 4-740-14. At present the waiting list for full-time day care averages more than 117. As a separate project, Tinker AFB plans to construct an additional full-time day care facility to meet this need. However, this facility will not be considered until 2007 and will not address the immediate need for hourly childcare services.

Therefore, expansion of existing full-time facilities, use of additional sites for the addition, and a smaller addition are not considered practicable alternatives.

No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, an addition to building addition 5715 would not be constructed, and there would be no enhancement of hourly day care facilities. As discussed above, current Tinker AFB facilities are inadequate to meet the existing and projected demand for these services. A proposed new full-time day care facility will not offer hourly services and will not meet the needs of Tinker AFB parents for temporary day care services. Therefore, the no-action alternative would result in continued provision of hourly day-care services in building 5715 that are inadequate to meet the current demand and continued excessive demands for use of the limited available facilities. Because the current facilities are overburdened and cannot meet the existing demand for services, the no-action alternative is not a practicable alternative.

Finding of No Practicable Alternative

Based on the above information, including the analysis contained in the EA and taking into account the economic, environmental and other pertinent factors analyzed in the EA, I find there are no practicable alternatives to construction in a floodplain for the Proposed Action. I further find that all practicable measures have been taken to minimize impacts to floodplains from activities associated with the Proposed Action.



CHARLES H. COOLIDGE, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Vice Commander, AFMC

Executive Summary

Introduction

This environmental assessment (EA) evaluates potential environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with construction of a 1,395-square-foot addition to the religious education building (building 5715) within the Community Development Area at Tinker Air Force Base (AFB), Oklahoma. The addition would provide space for more short-term (hourly) childcare services and enhance the efficiency of the hourly childcare services already offered in building 5715 by providing similar services in a consolidated location. No additional facilities would be constructed, and no existing facilities would be demolished to construct the addition.

Alternatives Considered

Proposed Action

The proposed action is construction of a 1,395-square-foot addition to the Tinker AFB religious education building (building 5715). The purposes of this project are to enhance short-term (hourly) day care services provided in building 5715; increase service capacity by 100 children per day by expanding available facilities; and increasing efficiency of current staff by keeping the base hourly day care service in a consolidated location. When the hourly day care facility opened in building 5715, the service offered nine spaces, and they were fully reserved. A later conversion of an interior room in building 5715 created 20 additional spaces. There is no space available for additional conversion and the demand is growing – as of January 2003, there are more than 100 families on the waiting list for hourly day care service. The proposed action is the preferred alternative. The proposed location is adjacent to and connected with building 5715, where current hourly childcare services are offered.

Additional action alternatives were eliminated from further consideration as discussed below. Only the proposed action and no-action alternative were analyzed.

Other Alternatives Considered and Dismissed

On Tinker AFB, building 5715 is the only building that has the available facilities and staff to provide hourly day care. One option that was considered involved having hourly day care services at a second location; however, other buildings lack facilities for short-term day care, and Tinker AFB lacks the fiscal resources to provide facilities and adequate staff at a separate location. Another alternative entailed establishing a disjunct facility to provide hourly day care; this option would not meet the project purpose of enhancing existing staff utilization at a consolidated location. The proposal calls for hiring only one additional part-time employee, and this employee would not suffice to safely supervise the additional children if the addition were constructed at a disjunct

location. A third alternative was to construct a smaller addition; however, doing so would not provide the necessary space to meet the project purpose.

At present, the waiting list for full-time day care averages more than 117. As separate projects, Tinker AFB plans to construct two additional full-time day care facilities to meet this need. However, these facilities will not offer hourly day care options, as they will not have staff available for hourly day care. Therefore neither full-time facility would satisfy the purpose of the project.

For the reasons described above, no other action alternatives were considered in this analysis.

No-Action Alternative

By definition, under the no-action alternative, a religious education building addition would not be constructed, and there would be no enhancement of hourly day care facilities. As discussed above, current Tinker AFB facilities are inadequate to meet the demand, and proposed full-time facilities will not offer hourly services. Therefore, the no-action alternative would result in continued operation of the religious education building with inadequate hourly day care facilities and excessive demands for use of the limited available facilities.

Environmental, Social, and Economic Issues and Concerns

No significant environmental or socio-economic concerns have been identified for the proposed action or the no-action alternative in this EA. There would be no impacts on any examined resources resulting from the no-action alternative.

The location for the proposed action is within the 100-year floodplain. Impacts to the floodplain are anticipated to be minor, as construction would be outside the designated floodway. There would be no decrease in flood transport and no increase in flood elevation upstream of the proposed project. Hourly construction-related impacts would occur from fugitive dust emissions and construction equipment noise, but these impacts would be relatively isolated, of short duration, and can be mitigated using standard construction practices. Minor stormwater impacts, primarily associated with erosion during construction, would be minimized using standard best management practices (BMPs) as defined in the *Tinker AFB Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan*. Temporary noise and air quality impacts would be associated with the operation of heavy equipment and the site work during construction of the facility. Potential impacts on adjacent land uses would be minimized by restricting construction activity to normal business hours. Beneficial hourly impacts may result from construction employment opportunities. No significant impacts to the economy would result from creation of one part-time position.

Contents

Executive Summary.....	ES-1
1.0 Purpose and Need.....	1-1
1.1 Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action.....	1-1
1.2 Location of the Proposed Action.....	1-2
1.3 Scope of the Environmental Analysis.....	1-2
1.3.1 Analyses Eliminated from Further Consideration	1-2
1.3.2 Analyses Carried Forward	1-2
1.4 Applicable Regulatory Requirements and Coordination	1-3
2.0 Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives.....	2-1
2.1 Introduction.....	2-1
2.2 History of the Formulation of Alternatives	2-1
2.3 Proposed Action	2-2
2.4 No-Action Alternative	2-3
2.5 Comparison Matrix of the Environmental Effects	2-3
3.0 Affected Environment	3-1
4.0 Environmental Consequences.....	4-1
4.1 Introduction.....	4-1
4.2 Effects on the Affected Environment.....	4-1
4.2.1 Topography and Soils.....	4-1
4.2.2 Noise.....	4-2
4.2.3 Air Quality.....	4-2
4.2.4 Surface Water.....	4-3
4.2.5 Aquatic Biota.....	4-3
4.2.6 Socio-Economics	4-4
4.2.7 Utilities and Solid Waste	4-5
4.2.8 Transportation	4-6
4.2.9 Summary of Potential Mitigation Actions	4-6
4.3 Unavoidable Adverse Environmental Effects	4-6
4.4 Compatibility with Objectives of Federal, Regional, State, and Local Land Use Plans and Policies	4-6
4.5 Relationship Between the Short-Term Use of the Environment and Long-Term Productivity	4-7
4.6 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources	4-7
4.7 Cumulative Environmental Consequences	4-7
5.0 List of Preparers	5-1
5.1 Tinker AFB, Oklahoma	5-1
5.2 CH2M HILL	5-1
6.0 List of Agencies and Persons Consulted or Provided Copies of the EA	6-1
7.0 Literature Cited	7-1

Appendix A Agency Correspondence

List of Figures

Number

1-1	Regional Location of Tinker Air Force Base	1-3
1-2	Location of Proposed Action.....	1-5

List of Tables

Number

2-1	Comparative Impact Summary of Analyses Considered for Religious Education Building Addition.....	2-2
4-1	Estimated Peak Hours of Construction Noise.....	4-2

Acronyms

ABW	Air Base Wing
AFB	Air Force Base
AFI	Air Force Instruction
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis
BMP	Best Management Practice
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIAP	Environmental Impact Analysis Process
EO	Executive Order
FONPA	Finding of No Practicable Alternative
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
HVAC	heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
MAJCOM	Major Command
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NPL	National Priorities List
OC-ALC	Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center
ODOC	Oklahoma Department of Commerce
ONHI	Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
UFC	Unified Facilities Criteria
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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1.0 Purpose and Need

1.1 Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is the construction of a 1,395-square-foot addition to building 5715 (religious education building) to provide additional short-term (hourly) childcare services and enhance the efficiency of hourly childcare staff by providing similar services in a consolidated location (building 5715). The demand for hourly childcare on Tinker AFB exceeds the available supply and there is a waiting list for this service.

When the initial need for hourly childcare services was identified, building 5715 was determined to be the only available building on the base that met the minimum criteria for childcare as specified in the Unified Facilities Criteria: Child Development Centers (UFC 4-740-14; Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 2002). At that time, building 5715 was modified to create an hourly childcare facility. When the hourly day care facility opened, the nine spaces were fully reserved. Twenty additional spaces were created by conversion of an additional interior room in building 5715. There is no space available for additional conversion, and the demand for hourly day care service is growing. More than 100 people are on the waiting list as of January 2003.

No other real estate on the base is available for use that meets the minimum criteria for childcare, which precludes relocating the existing services to another building and adding two additional classrooms to the new structure. Both existing full-time childcare facilities on Tinker AFB are filled to capacity and each has a waiting list for services. There are proposals to build a new full-time childcare facility, but the first will not be initiated prior to 2007. Therefore, existing and planned full-time childcare facilities are incapable of meeting the immediate need for additional hourly childcare.

The addition to building 5715 would provide two program rooms beyond the current building capacity and an additional restroom for each gender. This addition was proposed to meet the increased usage and demands while maintaining services at a single location. Construction of the addition would provide relief for base parents unable to obtain hourly childcare with the present facilities. The additional space would allow Tinker AFB to provide hourly childcare services for up to 100 parents per day above the current service level. By adding to building 5715, similar services would be provided at a single location, enhancing efficiency of the service and reducing the need for additional staff.

The addition to building 5715 also would provide benefits to services currently offered through the chapel, which is next to building 5715. On-site temporary childcare would be available for persons enrolled in the adult education programs at the chapel, those involving life skills (behavioral and mental health) and family advocacy.

1.2 Location of the Proposed Action

The religious education building is located in the northwestern portion of Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. Figure 1-1 presents a regional location map for Tinker AFB. The proposed action is located within the Community Center Development Area of Tinker AFB. Figure 1-2 shows the location of the proposed project.

1.3 Scope of the Environmental Analysis

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to consider environmental consequences in their decision-making process. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued regulations to implement NEPA; these regulations include provisions for the content and procedural aspects of required environmental analysis. The Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP, see Air Force Instruction [AFI] 32-7061) is the mechanism used by the Air Force to ensure that its decisions are made with a complete understanding of the potential environmental consequences. The CEQ regulations are used with AFI 32-7061 to determine the appropriate level of environmental documentation required for a specific proposed action.

This EA presents an assessment of the potential impacts of facility construction within the Community Development Area at Tinker AFB. Consistent with AFI 32-7061 and the CEQ regulations, the scope of analysis presented in this EA is defined by the potential range of environmental impacts that would result from implementation of the proposed action or the no-action alternative. Resources that have a potential for impacts or require regulatory consultation review were considered in more detail to provide the decision makers with sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether additional analysis is required pursuant to Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1508.9 (40 CFR 1508.9).

1.3.1 Analyses Eliminated from Further Consideration

An EA was completed in 1998 and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) approved for construction of an addition to the base chapel (building 5701). Building 5715 is located immediately across a driveway from building 5701 and within the area of affect considered in the previous EA for building 5701. Impacts from construction of an addition to building 5715 will be similar to, but of less magnitude than, impacts from the evaluated addition to building 5701, as the addition to building 5715 is one-third the size of the addition considered for building 5701. As both buildings are within the community development area of Tinker AFB, and the land surrounding buildings 5715 and 5701 is currently developed, resource areas determined not to be affected by the 1998 chapel addition EA also would not be affected by the addition to building 5715. Therefore, the following areas are excluded from analysis in this EA:

- Mission Objectives
- Land Use
- Aesthetics
- Environmental Justice and Protection of Children
- Cultural Resources

- Airfield Operations
- Terrestrial Biota and Endangered Species
- Geology
- Groundwater
- Hazardous Materials and IRP
- Wetlands

The reasoning behind there being no impacts to these areas is hereby incorporated by reference from the 1998 chapel addition EA.

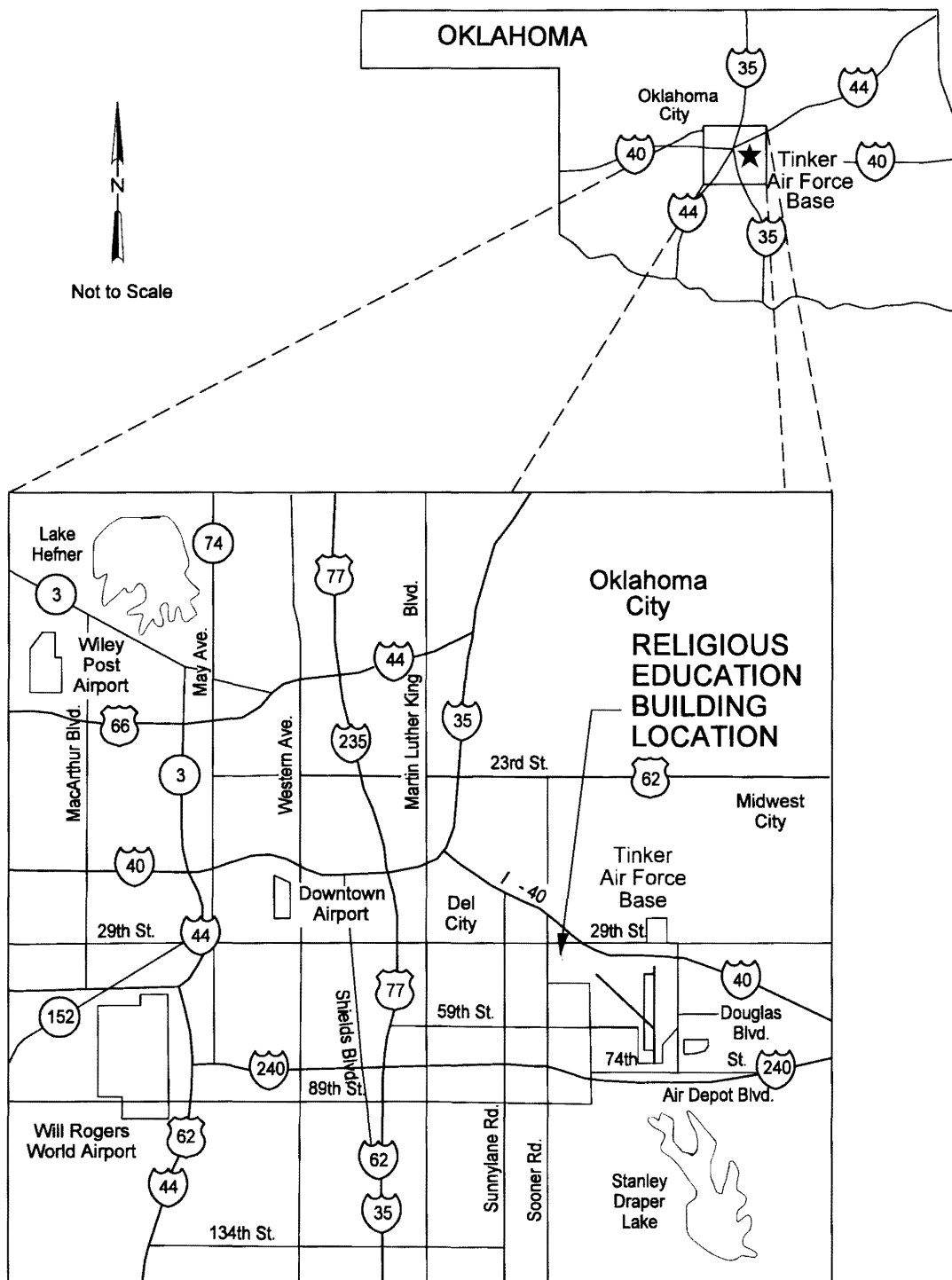
1.3.2 Analyses Carried Forward

The long-term issues of primary concern in this EA are impacts on floodplains, socio-economic resources, infrastructure, cultural resources, and cumulative impacts. Thus, the issues analyzed in more detail in this EA include topography and soils, noise, air quality, surface water, aquatic biota, socio-economics (employment, population, income, and contribution to local economy), utilities, solid waste, and transportation.

1.4 Applicable Regulatory Requirements and Coordination

Tinker AFB completed an EA for the construction of a collocated club at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma (Tinker AFB, August 2002). The proposed action in this analysis is subject to the same requirements for regulatory compliance and coordination. The description of applicable regulatory requirements and coordination from the Collocated Club EA is hereby incorporated by reference.

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Source: Adapted from Rand McNally Atlas, 1991

FIGURE 1-1
Regional Location of Tinker Air Force Base
Addition to Religious Education Building
Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

CH2MHILL

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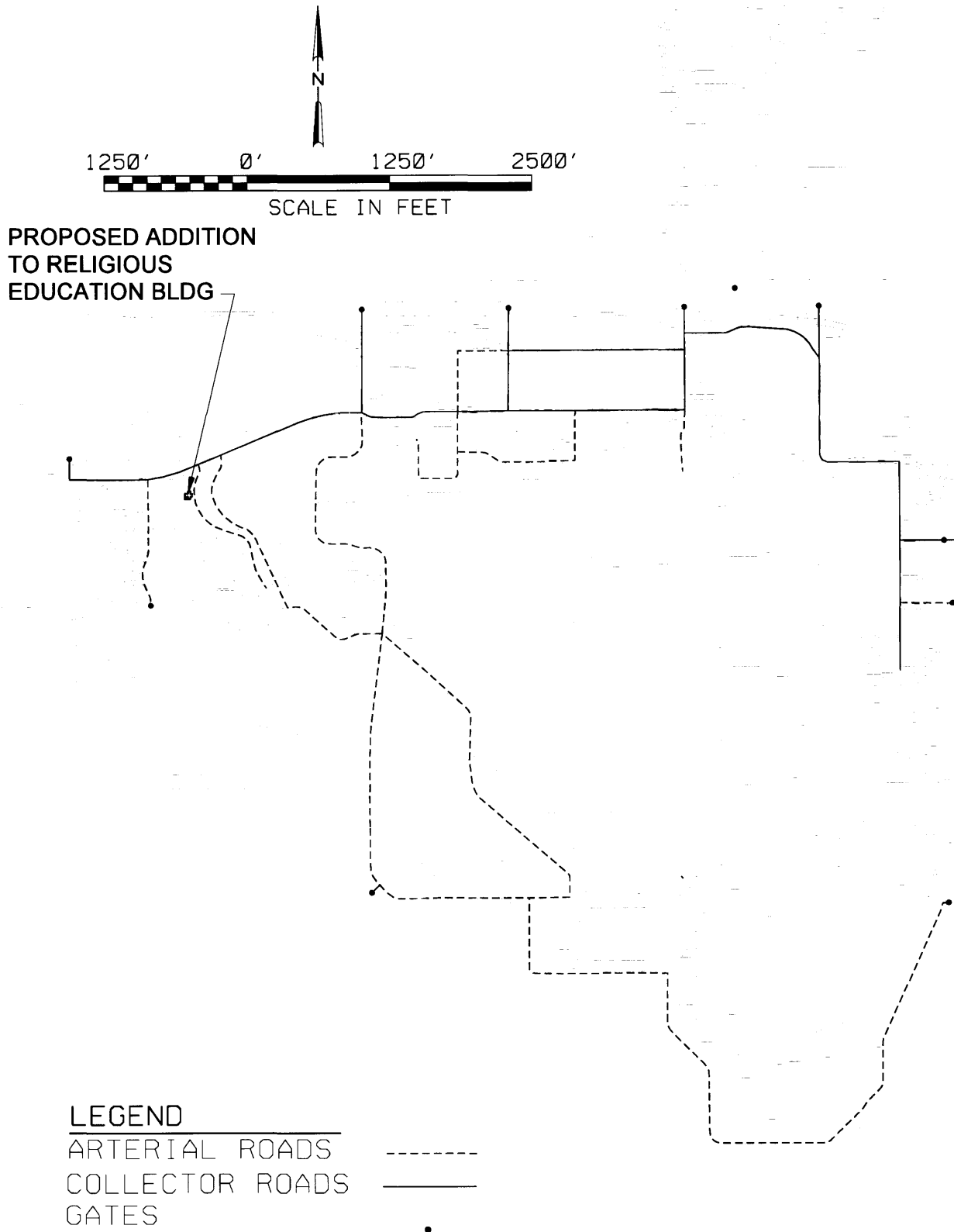


FIGURE 1-2
Location of Proposed Action
and Alternatives
Addition to Religious Education Building
Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

2.0 Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.1 Introduction

This section describes the proposed action, the no-action alternative, and the reasons that no additional action alternatives were carried forward for consideration. Tinker AFB has identified a need to construct a 1,395-square-foot addition (two rooms) to the religious education building (building 5715) to provide additional hourly childcare services, enhance the efficiency of hourly childcare staff in building 5715 while complementing existing services, and maintain hourly childcare services in a consolidated location. The demand for hourly childcare on Tinker AFB exceeds the available supply and there is a waiting list for this service. When the hourly day care facility opened, the nine spaces were fully reserved. Twenty additional spaces were created by conversion of an interior room in building 5715. There is no more space available for conversion and the demand is growing. The facility currently serves 64 parents per day and there is a waiting list of more than 100 for hourly child care services.

The addition to building 5715 would provide two program rooms beyond the current building capacity and an additional restroom for each gender. This addition has been proposed to meet the increased usage and demands placed on the hourly day care program and, at the same time, maintain the program at a single location. Construction of the addition to building 5715 would provide relief for base parents unable to obtain short-term childcare with the present facility. The additional space would allow Tinker AFB to provide hourly childcare services for up to 100 parents per day above the current overburdened service level. By adding to building 5715, similar services would be maintained at a single location, enhancing efficiency of the services. Tinker AFB will be able to provide the additional services with existing staff and the possible employment of one additional part-time person. The building 5715 location also is desirable from the standpoint of logistics, as building 5715 is located proximate to the residential base housing area of need for hourly childcare services.

2.2 History of the Formulation of Alternatives

NEPA and AFI 32-7061 require consideration of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Only alternatives that reasonably meet the defined need for the proposed action require detailed analysis in this EA.

The proposed action is construction of a 1,395-square-foot addition to building 5715 to provide additional hourly childcare services, enhance the efficiency of hourly childcare services and staff in building 5715, and maintain hourly childcare services in a consolidated location. No additional construction and no demolition of existing

structures would result from the proposed action. The project purpose is to expand services available through building 5715 and enhance efficiency by maintaining similar services at a single location.

Construction of a new facility at a disjunct location was considered but later dismissed. When the initial need for hourly childcare services was identified, available buildings on the base were surveyed and building 5715 was determined to be the only building available that met the minimum criteria for childcare services, as specified in UFC-4-740-14 (V. Trahan, personal communication). Subsequently, the building was modified twice to create the current hourly childcare facility. At present, there are no other available structures that meet the minimum criteria (V. Trahan, personal communication) so no other location was considered practicable. Additionally, building 5715 is the only building with available staff and appropriate facilities for hourly day care services, which would necessitate a completely new facility rather than an addition to an existing building if a disjunct location was considered. The one part-time position that could be created would not be sufficient to provide adequate and safe supervision to 100 children per day at a disjunct location, and existing short-term day care staff could not be split between the two locations to watch over the additional children. Establishment of a disjunct facility to provide hourly day care would not meet the project purpose of enhancing existing staff utilization at a consolidated location. Tinker AFB lacks the fiscal resources, first, to modify another existing structure to meet the minimum criteria for childcare and, second, to build the additional classrooms and bathrooms.

Existing full-time childcare facilities are operating at capacity and cannot accommodate the additional demand for full-time or hourly services. At present the waiting list for full-time day care averages more than 117. There is insufficient land around these facilities to modify them to accommodate the hourly childcare demand and meet the minimum criteria specified in UFC 4-740-14.

As a separate project, Tinker AFB plans to construct an additional full-time day care facility to meet this need. However, this construction will not be considered until 2007 and will not address the current need for hourly childcare services. The new facility will not offer hourly day care and will not have staff for dedicated hourly day care. The continuous coming and going of short-term occupants could be disruptive to programs implemented for the children in full-time day care. A full-time facility constructed after 2007 would not be capable of meeting the purpose and immediate need of the project.

For the reasons discussed above, additional action alternatives regarding location and/or size were considered but were not carried forward for analysis.

2.3 Proposed Action

The proposed action includes construction of a 1,395-square-foot addition to the religious education building (building 5715) to provide additional hourly childcare services and enhance the efficiency of hourly childcare staff in building 5715 through consolidation of similar services at a single location. This addition would contain:

- 2 classrooms
- 1 restroom for females
- 1 restroom for males

No additional construction and no demolition of other existing structures would result as a consequence of the proposed action. The proposed action is designated the preferred alternative for this analysis.

2.4 No-Action Alternative

By definition, under the no-action alternative, a religious education building addition would not be constructed and there would be no enhancement of hourly day care facilities. As discussed above, current Tinker AFB facilities are inadequate to meet the demand for hourly childcare services, and proposed full-time facilities will not offer hourly services. Therefore, the no-action alternative would result in continued operation of the religious education building with inadequate hourly day care facilities and excessive demands for use of the limited available facilities.

2.5 Comparison Matrix of the Environmental Effects

Table 2-1 summarizes the environmental and socio-economic effects of the proposed action and the no-action alternative for issues considered for further evaluation in this document. Section 4 of this EA provides more detailed information on the effects of each alternative for the environmental and socio-economic areas analyzed.

TABLE 2-1
Comparative Impact Summary of Analyses Considered for Religious Education Building Addition

Resource Area	Preferred Alternative	No-Action Alternative
Topography and Soils	Minor impacts to soils from construction. No impacts to topography or geology are anticipated. Erosion control BMPs to be used. No long-term impacts anticipated.	No impacts.
Noise	Minor construction-related noise events. No long-term noise sources added. Construction-related activities near residential areas or other sensitive receptors are usually restricted to daytime hours. Construction-related noise is temporary and of short duration and not considered to be significant.	No impacts.
Air Quality	Minor construction-related fugitive dust emissions require appropriate control BMPs. Use of natural gas compressors or HVAC units requires coordination with Tinker Air Quality staff.	No impacts.
Surface Water	According to the recently revised U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) floodplain map, the proposed building addition location is outside the floodway. Potential minor short-term impacts from construction. Erosion control BMPs would be implemented to avoid runoff into storm drains.	No impacts.

TABLE 2-1
Comparative Impact Summary of Analyses Considered for Religious Education Building Addition

Resource Area	Preferred Alternative	No-Action Alternative
Aquatic Biota	No impacts as site is landscaped and located in an urban/industrial area; magnitude of disturbance is small; and erosion control BMPs, as specified in Tinker AFB SW3P would be implemented to avoid runoff impacts to Crutcho Creek.	No impacts.
Employment	Beneficial impact from short-term construction employment. No long-term impacts from creation of one part-time position.	No impacts.
Population	No impacts. At most one part-time position would be added. This position would be filled from the local labor force and would not result in changes to the local population.	No impacts
Community Services	Beneficial impact from provided enhanced community services at the chapel through available childcare for parents participating in life skills and family advocacy training. Beneficial impact provided for military families whose need for hourly daycare services can be met.	No impacts.
Income	Beneficial impact from additional short-term construction spending. No long-term significant impacts as at most one part-time position would be added. No additional expenditures are proposed.	No impacts.
Installation Contribution to the Local Economy	No significant impacts as at most one part-time position would be added.	No impacts.
Utilities	No significant adverse impact as additional demand is within the existing capacity of the base infrastructure.	No impacts.
Solid Waste	No impact, project would not unduly burden existing solid waste disposal facilities and would not change solid waste handling procedures on Tinker AFB.	No impacts.
Transportation	No impact, project would not appreciably alter traffic volume or flow patterns on-base. Construction may result in temporary transportation impacts related to material deliveries. No parking impacts are anticipated	No impacts.

3.0 Affected Environment

The affected environment has been fully characterized in the Collocated Club EA and that characterization is hereby incorporated by reference.

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4.0 Environmental Consequences

4.1 Introduction

The primary purpose of an EA is to identify potential impacts of a major federal action on the environment. Identification of potential impacts in this EA included consideration of both the context and the degree of the impact. When feasible, distinctions were made between short-term, long-term, negligible, and adverse impacts. A negligible impact may be inconsequential or be unlikely to occur; and an adverse impact would have negative consequences. If the current condition of a resource is improved or an undesirable impact is lessened, the impact is considered beneficial. Finally, a “no impact” determination is made when the proposed action does not noticeably affect a given resource. Where appropriate, cumulative impacts are discussed. Cumulative impacts are those likely to occur over a long period of time or as a result of combining the expected impacts of two or more unrelated actions. This section presents the potential environmental consequences at the project site.

4.2 Effects on the Affected Environment

4.2.1 Topography and Soils

4.2.1.1 Topography

Preferred Alternative

The construction of the preferred alternative would require minimal site preparation activities (grading and excavation of less than 0.1 acres). The site is adjacent to building 5715 and construction would not significantly alter the existing topography or change overall drainage patterns near building 5715. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts to topography are anticipated.

No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, no grading or excavation activities would occur and no impact to area topography would occur.

4.2.1.2 Soils

Preferred Alternative

Soil disturbance would occur during site preparation and construction. Underground utilities (e.g., water distribution and wastewater collection lines) may need to be relocated. The potential exists for small-scale soil loss due to stormwater runoff. Impacts to soils from the preferred alternative would not be significant because onsite soils have been heavily disturbed historically, construction activities would be temporary, and the use of BMPs would minimize erosion loss. BMPs would include, but not be limited to, silt fences, hay bales, and establishment of cover vegetation.

No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, no construction activities would occur; therefore, there would be no impact to soils.

4.2.2 Noise

4.2.2.1 Preferred Alternative

Construction equipment would increase noise levels intermittently and potentially create a temporary nuisance for people living nearby. Impacts would be short-term and not significant because of their temporary nature. Tinker AFB would minimize noise impacts on sensitive receptors by limiting any noisy activities to daytime hours and, if complaints are received, by using additional noise control measures. Construction would not involve the addition of new noise sources. As such, no long-term impact to the noise environment would occur. Table 4-1 summarizes the noise levels generated by heavy equipment typically used during construction of highways, which produces noise levels similar to those that would be generated during construction of the proposed project.

4.2.2.2 No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, the existing facilities would continue to be used, resulting in no impact to existing noise levels on base.

TABLE 4-1
Estimated Peak Hours of Construction Noise

Construction Phase	Equipment	Noise Level at 25 feet (dBA-Leq)	Noise Level at 50 feet (dBA-Leq)
Clearing and grubbing	Bulldozer, backhoe	95	89
Foundation	Backhoe, loader	94	88
Superstructure	Crane, loader	95	89
Base preparation	Trucks, bulldozer	97	91

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation. 1977. Highway Construction Noise: Measurement, Prediction, and Mitigation.

4.2.3 Air Quality

4.2.3.1 Preferred Alternative

There would be short-term localized emissions from construction vehicles and fugitive dust. Impacts would be temporary and are not considered significant. BMPs would be used to control fugitive dust, as needed, during construction. Dust control BMPs may include but not limited be to misting from water trucks. The new facility may include air compressors and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems powered by natural gas. Should this equipment be designed for natural gas use, coordination with the Tinker AFB Environmental Management Directorate would occur to ensure that the appropriate permits, if required, are obtained.

4.2.3.2 No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, the existing facilities would continue to be used, resulting in no impact to air quality.

4.2.4 Surface Water

4.2.4.1 Preferred Alternative

The religious education building addition would be located within the floodplain of Crutcho Creek as the religious education building is in the floodplain. According to the USACE floodplain map (revised 2002)¹, the proposed building location for the preferred alternative would be outside the designated floodway for Crutcho Creek. Construction of the addition would not result in reduced flood transport or changes to flood elevations upstream of the site because it would not constrict the floodway. Encroachment by the proposed addition would be less than 0.005 percent of the floodplain. In conjunction with other projects planned near the religious education building that would encroach on the floodplain (chapel addition, Collocated Club), total encroachment would be less than 0.1 percent of the floodplain with no floodway encroachment. As the total encroachment is small and there would be no decrease in flood transport or increase in flood elevation upstream of the proposed project, impacts to the floodplain are anticipated to be insignificant.

Stormwater runoff from areas disturbed during construction has the potential to increase turbidity, siltation, and sedimentation to receiving streams and drainage ponds. BMPs, as presented in *Tinker AFB Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan*, would be used to minimize impacts. Post-construction volume of stormwater would increase slightly because the amount of impervious surface would increase. This minor increase, however, is not considered a significant adverse impact. Because construction would comply with existing stormwater design regulations, no long-term impacts to surface waters are anticipated.

4.2.4.2 No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, the existing facilities would continue to be used, resulting in no impact to surface waters.

4.2.5 Aquatic Biota

4.2.5.1 Preferred Alternative

Runoff from construction activities has the potential to impact aquatic resources on Tinker AFB. Because of the small area of disturbance and implementation of BMPs, as presented in the *Tinker AFB Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan*, to minimize runoff and reduce sediment transport, no adverse effects on aquatic biota are expected.

4.2.5.2 No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, the existing facilities would continue to be used, resulting in no impacts to aquatic biota.

¹ USACE floodplain map was revised in May 2002. This map has not been formally adopted and is not yet available for reproduction.

4.2.6 Socio-Economics

4.2.6.1 Population

Preferred Alternative

Under the preferred alternative, there would be no additions or losses of personnel from the base or in the local area. At most, one part-time job would be created and that position would be filled locally and not result in transfer of personnel or emigration into the area. Therefore, no impact to population would occur under the preferred alternative.

No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, no change to population levels would occur. Therefore, no impact to the population would occur under the no-action alternative.

4.2.6.2 Community Services

Preferred Alternative

Under the preferred alternative, life skills and family advocacy training offered through the chapel would be enhanced. Persons in these training classes would have on-site childcare available for the time they were in the classroom. There also would be benefits for military families whose need for hourly daycare services at other times can be met.

No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, no change to community services levels would occur. Therefore, there would be no change to existing levels of community services offered on base.

4.2.6.3 Employment

Preferred Alternative

The economic effects of the preferred alternative would result from change in the demand for goods and services in the local economy. Primary effects would be caused by expenditures, employment, salaries, and population directly related to the proposed action. Secondary effects would result from the process of spending and re-spending, and the relationship between production of goods and services and the commodities that are produced. Following construction, one part-time job might be created, which would be filled from the local labor force.

Implementation of the preferred alternative would not have a significant impact on the total labor force, employment, or unemployment in the Tinker AFB area because the estimated number of jobs generated during construction is less than 1 percent of the total employment at Tinker AFB. In addition, there would be no significant long-term impact on Tinker AFB employment levels because, at most, one part-time job would be created.

No-Action Alternative

The no-action alternative involves the continuation of the present conditions with no new construction spending to meet facility deficiencies. As such, no impact to employment would occur.

4.2.6.4 Income

Preferred Alternative

At most, one part-time position would be created as part of the preferred alternative. This part-time position would have no significant economic effects. Economic effects of the preferred alternative would be limited to the temporary effects of construction. Because construction employment associated with the preferred alternative would be temporary and minor, there would be no appreciable effect on the income generated in the local economy.

Expenditures for construction-related materials and supplies would have a small short-term beneficial effect on the economy of the surrounding area. Businesses near Tinker AFB, such as gas stations and fast-food restaurants, generally benefit from additional sales to construction workers.

No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, no construction-related income would be generated and there would be no change to income levels. Therefore, no impact to income would occur under the no-action alternative.

4.2.6.5 Installation Contribution to the Local Economy

Preferred Alternative

The construction costs associated with the preferred alternative are less than 1 percent of Tinker AFB's annual overall impact on the economy, and the associated labor costs are also less than 1 percent of Tinker AFB's total payroll. The one part-time position that may be created would be much less than 1 percent of Tinker AFB's total payroll. The total payroll at Tinker AFB would not be significantly affected by the preferred alternative because any increase in personnel would be limited to one part-time position.

No-Action Alternative

Because there would be no construction or employment change under the no-action alternative, there would be no impact to the base's contribution to the economy.

4.2.7 Utilities and Solid Waste

4.2.7.1 Preferred Alternative

Construction of the preferred alternative would have little impact on utilities, such as electricity and natural gas used for heating/cooling and lighting. Because present utility consumption is approximately 60 percent of total capacity, the minor increased demand for the religious education building addition can be accommodated easily by the base utility capacity and is not a significant impact. No new personnel would be added, so the two additional restrooms would not result in a net addition to potable water use or domestic wastewater generation. Construction of the new facility would potentially involve the location, removal, and replacement of existing underground utilities. This would result in temporary localized utility disruptions. Such impacts are not considered significant, however, and would result in upgrades through new infrastructure.

Construction-related waste would not place an undue burden on existing solid waste disposal facilities in the area. Construction of the preferred alternative would have no effect on solid waste handling, because the proposed facility is to accommodate existing workload

levels and does not represent an increase in existing industrial workloads. All solid waste handling would comply with the recycling consent procurement requirements of EO 13101, Section 6002 of RCRA.

4.2.7.2 No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, the existing facilities would continue to be used at current utility demand levels, resulting in no impacts to existing utilities or solid waste handling abilities.

4.2.8 Transportation

4.2.8.1 Preferred Alternative

The preferred alternative would not result in an increase in personnel assigned to Tinker AFB. Construction impacts may result in temporary transportation impacts as road access is briefly interrupted for construction deliveries. Addition of 15 parking spaces would improve localized parking but would not significantly affect parking on Tinker AFB.

4.2.8.2 No-Action Alternative

Under the no-action alternative, the existing facilities would continue to be used, resulting in no impact to transportation.

4.2.9 Summary of Potential Mitigation Actions

No long-term significant adverse effects were identified. As a result, no mitigation measures are planned. Temporary erosion and runoff potential during construction would be controlled through the use of BMPs, and appropriate BMPs would be used to control fugitive dust emissions. The SHPO would be contacted in accordance with existing Tinker AFB policies if subsurface archaeological remains are discovered during construction.

4.3 Unavoidable Adverse Environmental Effects

No unavoidable adverse environmental effects from the implementation of either the preferred alternative or the no-action alternative have been identified through this EA.

4.4 Compatibility with Objectives of Federal, Regional, State, and Local Land Use Plans and Policies

The preferred alternative is compatible with Tinker AFB plans and policies and would not interfere with mission objectives of any tenant organizations. The preferred alternative would result in the construction of a 1,395-square-foot addition to the religious education building within an already developed area that is compatible with surrounding land uses. The preferred alternative is compatible with the *General Plan* (Tinker AFB, 2000b) and is not contrary to existing federal, regional, state, or local land use plans or policies.

4.5 Relationship Between the Short-Term Use of the Environment and Long-Term Productivity

The preferred alternative would not affect the long-term productivity of the environment; no significant environmental impacts or depletion of natural resources have been identified through this EA.

4.6 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

The preferred alternative would represent a commitment of fiscal resources during the construction process. No irreversible or irretrievable commitment of natural resources has been identified through this EA.

4.7 Cumulative Environmental Consequences

The CEQ regulations implementing NEPA require agencies to consider the potential for cumulative impacts of the action alternatives. "Cumulative impact" is defined in 40 CFR 1508.7 as "the impact on the environment in which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions... Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant factors taking place over time."

At present, Tinker AFB has three planned projects within the floodplain of Crutcho Creek (religious education building addition, chapel addition, and construction of a Collocated Club). In total, these projects would encroach upon less than 0.1 percent of the floodplain, which would not constitute a significant cumulative impact to the floodplain. No additional environmental impacts from the proposed action have been identified through this EA. Therefore, no cumulative impacts to natural environmental resources are anticipated from the interaction of the proposed action with other projects either on-base or in the region.

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5.0 List of Preparers

5.1 Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

Timothy T. Taylor: EIAP Program Manager and Cultural Resource Program Manager responsible for Cultural Resources and NEPA compliance at Tinker AFB. Mr. Taylor has a B.A. degree in Liberal Studies from Rose State College. He has 6 years of experience working as the Cultural Resource Program Manager and 1 year of experience working as the EIAP Program Manager. Other experience includes 3 years of experience working in the Air Quality Program, 4 years working in the Asbestos and Lead-based Paint Program, and 6 years working as a Bio-environmental Engineering Technician in the United States Air Force.

5.2 CH2M HILL

Dr. Howard Saxion: Deputy Program Manager and senior environmental scientist responsible for technical senior review. Dr. Saxion holds Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in environmental sciences from the University of Texas at Dallas, and a B.S. degree in biology from the University of Texas at Arlington. He has more than 20 years of experience in the preparation of NEPA documents, including environmental impact statements, air quality and noise impact assessments, regulatory compliance, and hazardous waste investigations. He is a Qualified Environmental Professional.

Dr. Richard Reaves: Environmental scientist responsible for overall project evaluation and document preparation. Dr. Reaves has 9 years of experience in NEPA, permitting, biological inventories, and natural resource assessment. He has a B.S. degree in wildlife ecology and resource management from the University of Wyoming and a Ph.D. in wetland ecology from Purdue University.

Kira Zender, AICP: Project Manager and environmental planner responsible for preparation of this EA. Ms. Zender has over 8 years of experience in land use and environmental planning. She has an M.A. in Urban and Regional Planning from Michigan State University and a B.A. in Urban Studies from New College/University of South Florida.

Ed Griggs: Engineering Technician responsible for CAD technical support and design and development of drawing packages with Microstation and AutoCad. Mr. Griggs has more than 18 years of experience in the military, domestic, and civil planning services. His experience includes AutoCad versions 2002, Microstation V8 and GIS Erdas Imagine.

David Dunagan: Publications specialist and technical editor responsible for editing and producing project deliverables. He has more than 24 years of experience in technical editing and document production for a wide range of public and private sector clients. Mr. Dunagan holds an M.A. in English from the University of Florida.

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6.0 List of Agencies and Persons Consulted or Provided Copies of the EA

- May 29, 2002, CH2M HILL received background information from the following personnel:
 - Tim Taylor/OC-ALC/EMCS
 - Scott Bowen/ OC-ALC/EMPE
 - LouAnna Munkres –72 ABW/CECRP
- 30 July 2002, CH2M HILL staff contacted the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, USFWS, and the Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory (ONHI) to solicit comments concerning protected species of the EA.
- 30 July 2002, CH2M HILL staff contacted the Oklahoma SHPO to solicit comments concerning cultural resources for the EA.

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7.0 Literature Cited

Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). 1999. Local Area Personal Income and Per Capita Personal Income. Accessed from BEA Regional Accounts Data internet site (<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/data.htm>) by D. Reilly/CH2M HILL, June 1999.

Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). 1997. Regional Economic Information System 1969-1995 (CD-ROM). U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command. 2002. Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC): Child Development Centers. UFC 4-740-14. Department of Defense. Supercedes Air Force Facility Design and Planning Guide for Child Development Centers (draft) dated 5 August 1994.

Oklahoma Department of Commerce. 2002. Community Profiles: General Information for Oklahoma City, Del City, and Midwest City. Accessed from ODOC Internet site (<http://www.odoc.state.ok.us>).

Stevens, J. Sanderson and Lorenzini, Michele A. December 2000. Phase I Archaeological Survey, Mapping and Recordation Report Tinker AFB, Oklahoma City, OK.

Tinker AFB. 2000a. *Programmatic EA for Demolition Activities at Tinker AFB*.

Tinker AFB. 2000b. *Tinker AFB General Plan*.

Tinker AFB. July 2000. *Tinker AFB Natural Resources Management Plan*.

Tinker AFB Historic Properties Survey of 93 structures and 1,000 acres located in Township 11 North, Range 2 West Southern Tall Grass Prairie and Cross Timbers Region 5 Oklahoma County, Oklahoma. April 1992. Prepared for Woolpert Consultants Dayton, Ohio, by Klinger and Smith Historic Preservation Associates, P.O. Box 1064, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72702.

Tinker AFB. July 1997. *Tinker AFB Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan for Hazardous and Extremely Hazardous Substances*. OC-ALC/EM.

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Appendix A

Agency Correspondence



CH2MHILL

CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place NE
Suite 700
Atlanta, GA
30346-1278
Tel 770.604.9095
Fax 770.604.9183

July 30, 2002

171183.A1.01

Ron Suttles
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
1801 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Subject: Environmental Assessment for Addition to the Chapel (Building 5701) and
Addition to the Chapel Annex (Building 5715) Located in the Community
Development Area of Tinker Air Force Base.

Dear Mr. Suttles:

CH2M HILL is currently preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Tinker Air Force Base (AFB) in Oklahoma City. The EA is being prepared for an addition to the chapel (Building 5701) and a classroom addition to the chapel annex (Building 5715). Building 5701 was completed in 1960 and building 5715 was completed in 1967. Please note that in 1998 Tinker AFB proposed an addition to building 5701; however, there was not enough funding to build.

The proposed project includes the following components:

- Construction of a 4,000 square foot (372 square meters) addition to the Tinker Air Force Base chapel facility, which is located within a 100-year floodplain.
- Construction of a 1,395 square foot (130 square meters) classroom addition to the Tinker Air Force Base chapel annex.

A map of the proposed project site is enclosed for your review. There are no practicable alternatives to the proposed actions because the additions must occur to the existing facilities. Please review the attached location map and provide any comments regarding the project. Please direct all letter correspondence to my attention at:

CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place, NE, Ste. 700
Atlanta, GA 30346

Ron Suttles
Page 2
July 30, 2002

If you require additional information on the project, please contact me at (770) 604-9182, ext. 270. Thank you for accommodating this request.

Sincerely,

CH2M HILL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Reaves". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rich Reaves
Environmental Scientist

ATL\Tinker ODWC Chapel.Classroom.doc
Enc\ Location map

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Lewis Stiles	John S. "Jack" Zink
CHAIRMAN	MEMBER
Mac Maguire	Harland Stonecipher
VICE CHAIRMAN	MEMBER
Douglas Schones	Bruce Mabrey
SECRETARY	MEMBER
John D. Groendyke	Bill Phelps
MEMBER	MEMBER



FRANK KEATING, GOVERNOR

GREG D. DUFFY, DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

1801 N. Lincoln

P.O. Box 53465

Oklahoma City, OK 73152

PH. 521-3851

August 9, 2002

Rich Reaves
CH2M
115 Perimeter Center Place, NE, Suite 700
Atlanta, GA 30346

Dear Mr. Reaves,

This responds to your letter of July 30, 2002 requesting information regarding the possible presence of state threatened or endangered species as well as any environmental impact for the following:

Project: Construction of Additions to Tinker Air Force Base


Location: Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Please understand that due to time and personnel constraints this Department has not conducted an actual field survey of the proposed site. Therefore, we are unable to provide site-specific information. We have reviewed the information provided for this project against our current records of state endangered and threatened species. Our records are compatible with the Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory and it appears that no state listed species would be affected.

Please be sure to contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Tulsa office (918-581-7458) to determine if any federally-listed species will be affected. For additional information concerning sensitive species, we recommend that you contact the Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory, 111 East Chesapeake, Norman, Oklahoma 73019.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we can be of further assistance, please contact our Natural Resources Section at 405-521-4616.

Sincerely,


Thomas Heuer
Natural Resources Biologist



CH2MHILL

CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place NE
Suite 700
Atlanta, GA
30346-1278
Tel 770.604.9095
Fax 770.604.9183

July 30, 2002

171183.A1.01

Ian Butler
Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory Program
111 East Chesapeake Street
Norman, Oklahoma 73019-0575

Subject: Environmental Assessment for Addition to the Chapel (Building 5701) and
Addition to the Chapel Annex (Building 5715) Located in the Community
Development Area of Tinker Air Force Base.

Dear Mr. Butler:

CH2M HILL is currently preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Tinker Air Force Base (AFB) in Oklahoma City. The EA is being prepared for an addition to the chapel (Building 5701) and a classroom addition to the chapel annex (Building 5715). Building 5701 was completed in 1960 and building 5715 was completed in 1967. Please note that in 1998 Tinker AFB proposed an addition to building 5701; however, there was not enough funding to build.

The proposed project includes the following components:

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- Construction of a 1,395 square foot (130 square meters) classroom addition to the Tinker Air Force Base chapel annex.

Ian Butler
Page 2
July 30, 2002

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CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place, NE, Ste. 700
Atlanta, GA 30346

If you require additional information on the project, please contact me at (770) 604-9182, ext. 270. Thank you for accommodating this request.

Sincerely,

CH2M HILL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Reaves", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rich Reaves
Environmental Scientist

ATL\Tinker NatHert Chapel.Classroom.doc
Enc\ Location map



Oklahoma
Natural Heritage Inventory

OKLAHOMA BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
111 E. Chesapeake Street
Norman, Oklahoma 73019-0575, USA
(405) 325-1985
FAX: (405) 325-7702

Rich Reaves
CH2MHILL
115 Perimeter Center Place NE
Suite 700
Atlanta, GA 30346

Monday, August 12, 2002

OBS Ref.: 2002-306-BUS-REA

Re: Addition to Chapel (Bldg. 5701) and Chapel Annex (Bldg. 5715)

Dear Mr. Reaves,

This letter is in response to your request for information on the presence of endangered species or other elements of biological significance at the referenced site. We have reviewed the information currently in the Natural Heritage Inventory database and have found no records of elements at the location you describe.

Because the database is only as complete as the information that has been collected, we cannot say with certainty whether or not a given site harbors rare species or ecological communities. In addition, the Oklahoma Biological Survey has no regulatory authority for endangered species and cannot say whether a project is or is not compliant with state or federal laws. Endangered species regulatory authorities in Oklahoma are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office in Tulsa (918-581-7458) and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation in Oklahoma City (405-521-4619). These offices also may have site specific information of which we are unaware.

Sincerely,

Ian Butler
Biological Data Coordinator



CH2MHILL

CH2M HILL

115 Perimeter Center Place NE

Suite 700

Atlanta, GA

30346-1278

Tel 770.604.9095

Fax 770.604.9183

July 30, 2002

171183.A1.01

Ken Frazier
Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
222 South Houston, Suite A
Tulsa, OK 74127-8909

Subject: Environmental Assessment for Addition to the Chapel (Building 5701) and
Addition to the Chapel Annex (Building 5715) Located in the Community
Development Area of Tinker Air Force Base.

Dear Mr. Frazier:

CH2M HILL is currently preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Tinker Air Force Base (AFB) in Oklahoma City. The EA is being prepared for an addition to the chapel (Building 5701) and a classroom addition to the chapel annex (Building 5715). Building 5701 was completed in 1960 and building 5715 was completed in 1967. Please note that in 1998 Tinker AFB proposed an addition to building 5701; however, there was not enough funding to build.

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Ken Frazier
Page 2
July 30, 2002

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CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place, NE, Ste. 700
Atlanta, GA 30346

If you require additional information on the project, please contact me at (770) 604-9182, ext. 270. Thank you for accommodating this request.

Sincerely,

CH2M HILL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Reaves", is written over the printed name.

Rich Reaves
Environmental Scientist

ATL\Tinker USFWS Chapel.Classroom.doc
Enc\ Location map

02-14-02-1-0967

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K
HL

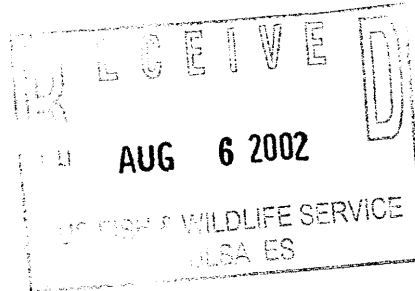
CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place NE
Suite 700
Atlanta, GA
30346-1278
Tel 770.604.9095
Fax 770.604.9183

 **CH2MHILL**

July 30, 2002

171183.A1.01

AUG 9 REC'D



Ken Frazier
Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
222 South Houston, Suite A
Tulsa, OK 74127-8909

Subject: Environmental Assessment for Addition to the Chapel (Building 5701) and Addition to the Chapel Annex (Building 5715) Located in the Community Development Area of Tinker Air Force Base.

Dear Mr. Frazier:

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- Construction of a 1,395 square foot (130 square meters) classroom addition to the Tinker Air Force Base chapel annex.

NO EFFECT FINDING	
The described action will have no effect on listed species, wetlands, or other important wildlife resources.	
Date	<u>8/29/02</u>
Consultation #	<u>2-14-02-0970</u>
Approved by	<u>[Signature]</u>
U.S. FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE, TULSA, OK	



CH2MHILL

CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place NE
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Atlanta, GA
30346-1278
Tel 770.604.9095
Fax 770.604.9183

July 30, 2002

171183.A1.01

Melvena Heisch
State Historic Preservation Office
2704 Villa Prom, Shepherd Mall
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Subject: Environmental Assessment for Addition to the Chapel (Building 5701) and
Addition to the Chapel Annex (Building 5715) Located in the Community
Development Area of Tinker Air Force Base.

Dear Ms. Heisch:

CH2M HILL is currently preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Tinker Air Force Base (AFB) in Oklahoma City. The EA is being prepared for an addition to the chapel (Building 5701) and a classroom addition to the chapel annex (Building 5715). Building 5701 was completed in 1960 and building 5715 was completed in 1967. Please note that in 1998 Tinker AFB proposed an addition to building 5701; however, there was not enough funding to build.

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A map of the proposed project site is enclosed for your review. There are no practicable alternatives to the proposed actions because the additions must occur to the existing facilities. Please review the attached location map and provide any comments regarding the project. Please direct all letter correspondence to my attention at:

CH2M HILL
115 Perimeter Center Place, NE, Ste. 700
Atlanta, GA 30346

Malvena Heisch
Page 2
July 30, 2002

If you require additional information on the project, please contact me at (770) 604-9182, ext. 270. Thank you for accommodating this request.

Sincerely,

CH2M HILL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Reaves", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rich Reaves
Environmental Scientist

ATL\Tinker SHPO Chapel.Classroom.doc
Enc\ Location map



Oklahoma Historical Society

Founded May 27, 1893

State Historic Preservation Office • 2704 Villa Prom • Shepherd Mall • Oklahoma City, OK 73107-2441

Telephone 405/521-6249 • Fax 405/947-2918

August 26, 2002

Mr. Rich Reaves
Environmental Scientist
CH2M Hill
115 Perimeter Center Place NE Suite 700
Atlanta, GA 30346

RE: File #2290-02; Tinker Chapel and Annex Project, Buildings #5701
and #5715

Dear Mr. Reaves:

We have received and reviewed the documentation concerning the referenced project in Oklahoma County. Additionally, we have examined the information contained in the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI) files and other materials on historic resources available in our office. We find that there are no historic properties affected by the referenced project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Should further correspondence pertaining to this project be necessary, the above underlined file number must be referenced. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Jim Gabbert, Architectural Historian, at 405/522-4478. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melvena Heisch
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

MH:bh